

# Valence News

## Happy New Year!

Dear Parents and Carers

I always like to wish everyone a happy new year at the start of the school year as it is in many respects the most important time in the school calendar. We are starting again, having returned from a 6 week break with some new staff and new students. We will formally welcome them all once everyone has commenced at the school within the next couple of weeks. In the meantime it is welcome back to all students and staff who were at Valence last year! We said farewell to Sally Casey on Tuesday after 10 years at Valence and having previously worked at the School for Kent Community Health. Sally was our Therapy and Moving and Handling Lead and did so much to make improvements in health provision at the School, finding ways to minimise the impact of the changes imposed on the School by Kent Community Health after the Covid pandemic. Sally may well do a bit of work for us in the future but in the meantime we wish her well in her retirement and thank her for her enormous contribution to the work and life of the School and especially for our children and young people.

Talking of retirement I hope that by now you will have seen the letter sent to you this week about my own retirement at the end of this school year.

Staff have been in School since Monday and had two Staff Development days in which essential training and preparations were able to take place. Most students were due back this week but we know that for a few there have been some transport issues. We hope that these will be speedily resolved by local authorities!

On Tuesday staff had some external safeguarding training and one aspect concerned the Statutory Guidance — Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023. We were reminded about the Definition of Safeguarding within the guidance:

**Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as:**

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care, and
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

It is important for all of us to remember this at the start of a new school year and to commit ourselves to it! Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility!

With kind regards and best wishes.

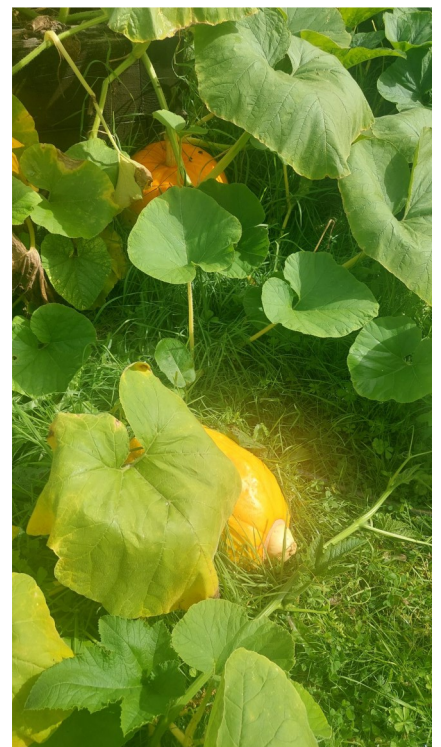
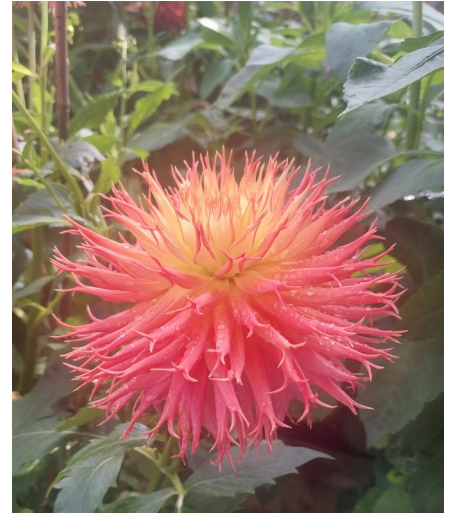
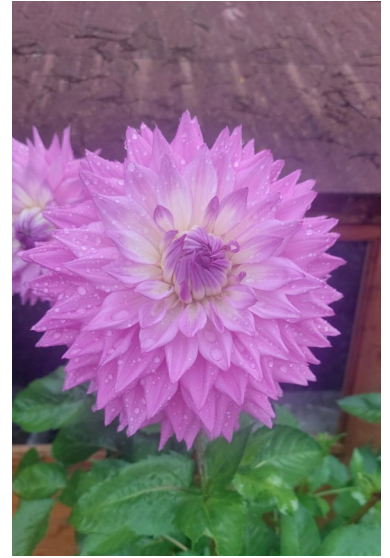
Roland Gooding      Principal

Westerham, Kent TN16 1QN   t 01959 562156   f 01959 565046   e [valence@valence.kent.sch.uk](mailto:valence@valence.kent.sch.uk)   [www.valenceschool.com](http://www.valenceschool.com)





# Valence in Bloom





## Senior Staff On-call Rota from 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### Contact details:

**Jo Chivers**                      **07896 905095**  
**Roland Gooding** **07896 905605**  
**Lisa Kavanagh**              **07912 124724**  
**Matt Strange**                **07894 483673**

Day	Date	Time	On-call	Overnight
Friday	08/09/23	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed Weekend
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
Saturday Sunday	09/09/23 10/09/23	Closed		
Monday	11/09/23	07.30 To midday	Matt Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
Tuesday	12/09/23	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Roland Gooding
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
Wednesday	13/09/23	09:00 To midday	Roland Gooding	Matt Strange
		Midday to 4pm	Matt Strange	
Thursday	14/09/23	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
Friday	15/09/23	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Closed Weekend
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
Saturday Sunday	16/07/23 17/07/23	Closed Weekend		



Remember to send in  
 Sunscreen